

1975


UA3/4 WKU Land-Use Report & Recommended Plan - University Farm & Other University Property

Ryan Cooke & Zuern Associates, Inc.

Johnson, Johnson & Roy, Inc.

WKU President's Office

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.wku.edu/dlsc_ua_records

 Part of the [Communication Commons](#), [Higher Education Administration Commons](#), [Landscape Architecture Commons](#), [Physical and Environmental Geography Commons](#), [Urban, Community and Regional Planning Commons](#), and the [Urban Studies and Planning Commons](#)

Western
Kentucky
University

LAND-USE REPORT & RECOMMENDED PLAN

University Farm
and Other
University Property

Supplement to the
University Master Campus Plan
Ryan Cooke & Zuern Associates, Inc.
Johnson Johnson & Roy/inc.

LAND-USE REPORT & RECOMMENDED PLAN

University Farm
Other University Property

WESTERN KENTUCKY UNIVERSITY
BOWLING GREEN KENTUCKY

BOARD OF REGENTS

Dr. W. Gerald Edds
Dr. Chalmer P. Embry
Dr. William G. Buckman
Mr. Ronald W. Clark
Mr. John David Cole
Mr. William Kuegel
Mr. Hugh Poland
Mr. John L. Ramsey
Mr. Ronald G. Sheffer
Miss Christy Kay Vogt

Calhoun, Kentucky
Owensboro, Kentucky
Bowling Green, Kentucky
Franklin, Kentucky
Bowling Green, Kentucky
Owensboro, Kentucky
Guthrie, Kentucky
Fern Creek, Kentucky
Henderson, Kentucky
Louisville, Kentucky

Contents

THE OUTLOOK	4
SITE ANALYSIS	
Topography and Drainage	5
Soils and Geology	6
Existing Land Use	7
Vegetation	8
Access and Circulation	9
External Natural Visual Images	10
Utilities	11
Surrounding Land Use	12
Site Analysis Summary	13
PHYSIOGRAPHIC LAND UNIT PLAN	14
PROGRAM ANALYSIS	15
SCHEMATIC ALTERNATIVES	16
RECOMMENDED LAND USE PLAN SUMMARY	19
RECOMMENDED LAND USE STUDY FOR OTHER PROPERTY	22

The Outlook

The successful achievement of educational objectives and the effective fulfillment of stated purposes are dependent upon certain factors which are recognized as basic and essential to the continued development of Western Kentucky University. Among these elements that are vital to a quality program is a physical plant that has been planned, designed and developed in a manner that supports, complements, and facilitates the educational processes to the maximum. Evidence of the University's commitment to this concept is reflected in the long range Master Plan for the main campus which was completed in 1965 and was refined and updated in 1971.

As the student body continues to grow and as the educational demands continue to be more diversified, it is essential that Western unify and coordinate every possible resource in bringing into existence additional physical facilities necessary for a quality program. It should be noted that preliminary planning is a continuous process as members of the faculty and staff lay the foundation for other important physical tools that are needed if Western is to adequately meet the challenges and the demands in the years ahead. In keeping with this philosophy of orderly growth and involvement of the University personnel in planning for the future, the President reported to the Board of Regents in April, 1975, that a University committee had been engaged for more than a year in a study relative to the University Farm and its future use. It was at that time recommended to and approved by the Board of Regents to engage the services of Johnson, Johnson & Roy, Inc., and Ryan, Cooke and Zuern Associates, Inc., to make a professional land-use study of the University Farm comprised of approximately 800 acres. This acreage includes the recently acquired land (Covington and Morris properties, approximately 240 acres) and the University Farm which was 560 acres, that has now been combined for long-range development.

The use of the acreage is now primarily agricultural as it is operated by the University in support of the programs provided in the Department of Agriculture for the areas of instruction, experimentation and research, and service. Because of proposed expansion of some of the facilities located on the University Farm and the possible alternative uses of the land, it is desirable to have more definitive planning for long range purposes. Through this means, the land can be better utilized for more diversified activities and can be preserved for future development in a more resourceful manner.

The land utilization study for the University Farm is to be supplemented by a plan for the development of outdoor recreational facilities, utilizing approximately 30 acres of land located at Industrial Drive and Campbell Lane and approximately 6 acres contiguous to and south of the campus on the Old Russellville Road. By including these land parcels, the University will then have a complete and comprehensive land-use plan for the institution.

It is hoped that the professional study and the resulting recommendations from the firms of Johnson, Johnson & Roy, Inc., and Ryan, Cooke and Zuern Associates, Inc. will culminate in a land utilization plan which will enable the University to more effectively fulfill its educational mission and provide optimum opportunities to the students and others who will be served in the years ahead.

Dero G. Downing
President

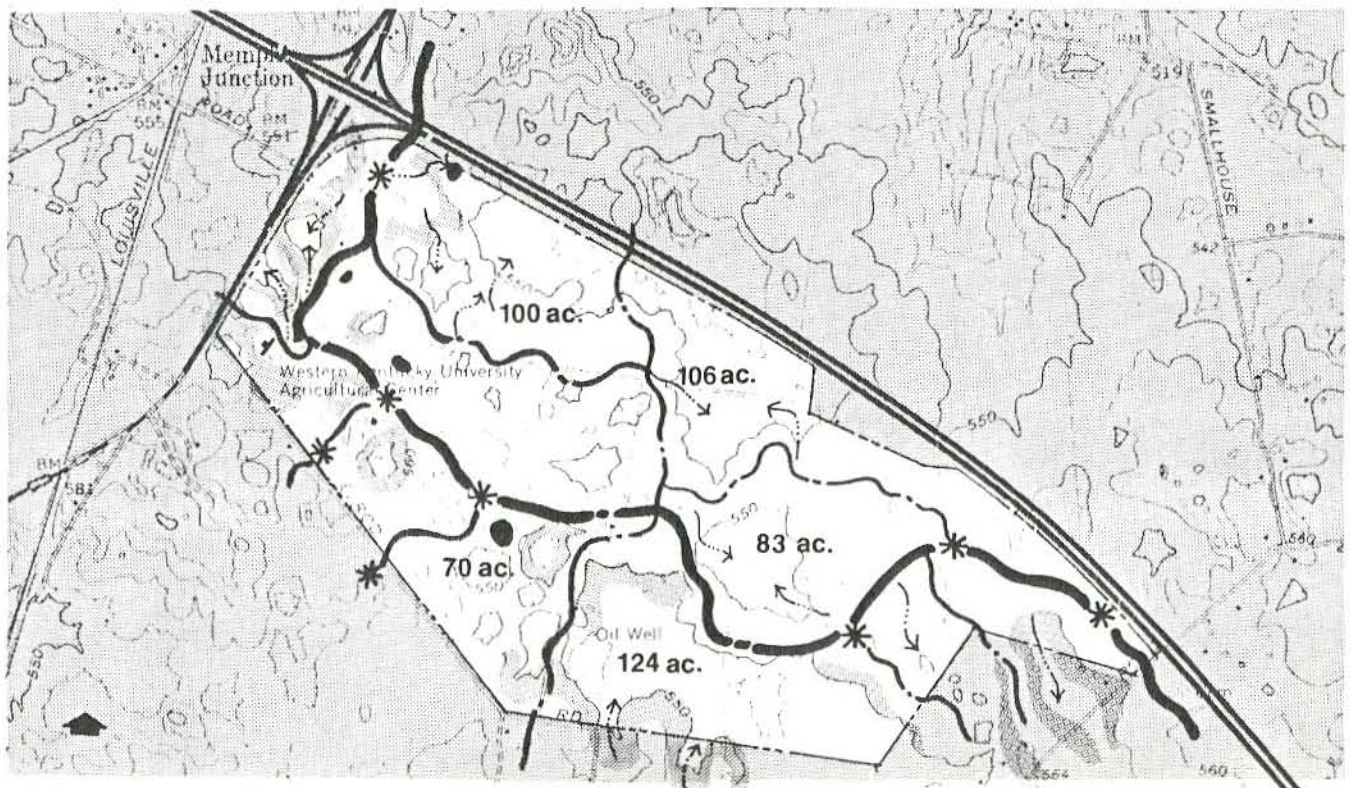
Topography & Drainage

5

Topographically the site is structured by a primary ridge line traversing on an east and west axis through almost the entire length of the site. At the west end of the site the ridge changes to a northerly direction paralleling U.S. #31 W approximately 900 feet from its edge. The elevation on the peak of this ridge ranges from 560 to 570 feet (above sea level), the highest grades on the entire site. The grade slopes off into low pockets and areas on an average of 10 to 15 feet lower than the ridge with the lowest elevation, 535, adjacent to the Green River Parkway just north of the wooded lot.

The pockets, formed by limestone sink holes, some of which hold water throughout the year, divide the western half of the site into numerous small land units, a possible natural feature that could be related to the physical program.

The natural site drainage system is formed by the dominant ridge line which is high and dry and the many sink holes which afford permanent and seasonal reservoirs for storm water runoff. It is within this natural topographical and drainage structure that a physical program should be planned and constructed.



Soils & Geology

6

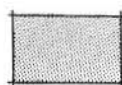
Detailed soil information is available only for a lineal 150 acre parcel of land contiguous to the Green River Parkway. Most of the soil in this parcel is Pembroke silt loam, a well drained soil having only slight limitation on development. At the western portion of the site, on line with the dominant ridge, is a lineal zone of Fredonia soils where surface limestone occurs as well as many of the water filled and dry sink holes. An area of Lawrence silt having a high water table is located where the largest woodlot occurs. Poor soils, excessive ground water and mature vegetation within this area gives credence to setting this area aside for preservation.

Soil fertility throughout the entire site is generally indicated by its current use with areas of pasture on the east end, the least productive, and the feed grain field located on the eastern two-thirds of the site, having more fertile and deeper soil.

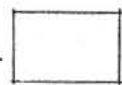
Key



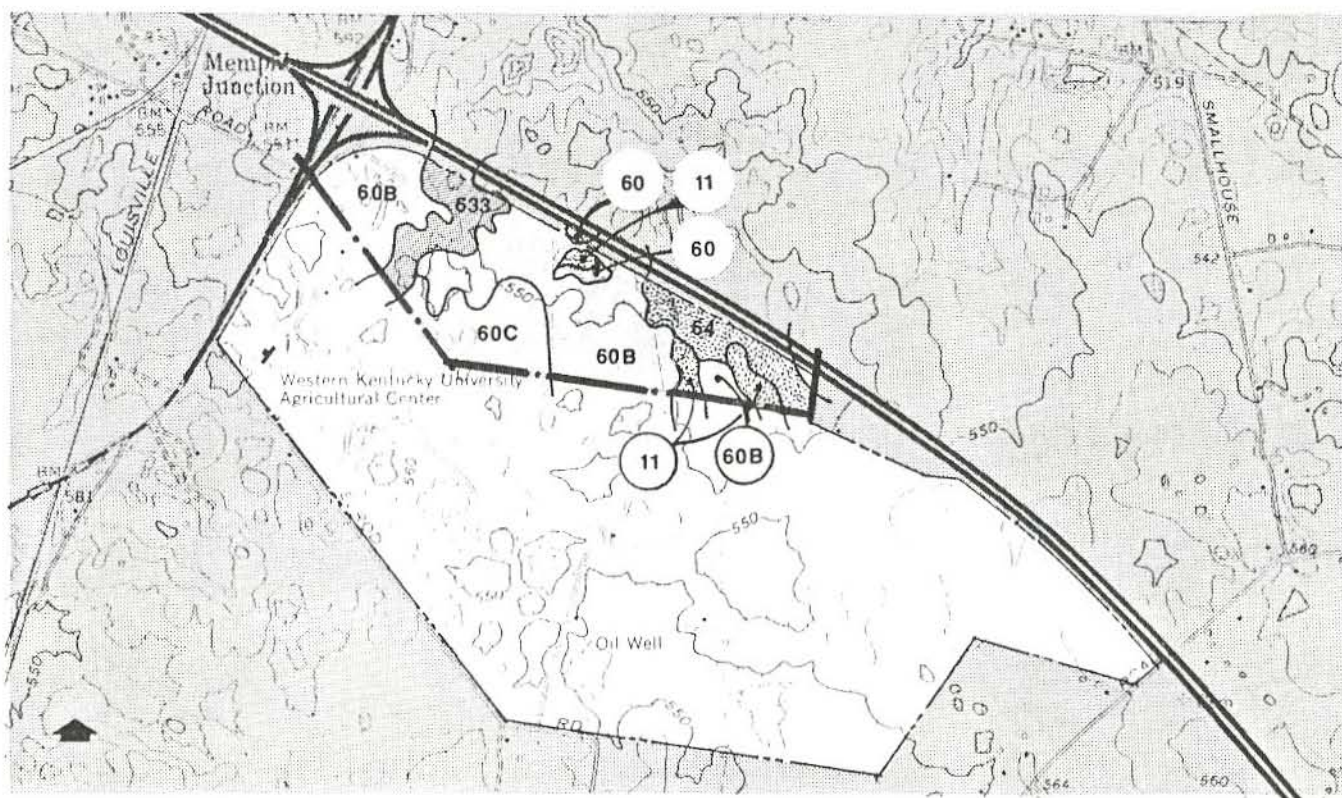
Moderate to Severe Limitations
 64 - Lawrence silt loam (nearly level), seasonal high water table and slow permeability.
 11 - Nolin (0 - 4% slope) Severe limitation to building development due to flood hazard. Soil is well drained for recreational development.



Moderate to Severe Limitations
 633 - Fredonia (6 - 12% slope) Moderate to severe limitations to development due to depth to hard rock and steep slopes.



Slight Limitations
 60 - Pembroke silt loam - well drained.



Existing Land Use

7

Almost the entire site, approximately 780 acres, is presently utilized for pasture, hay production and feed grain production. Pastures are located where soils are thin among the numerous sink holes on the western half of the site and the more productive hay and grain fields are located on the eastern half.

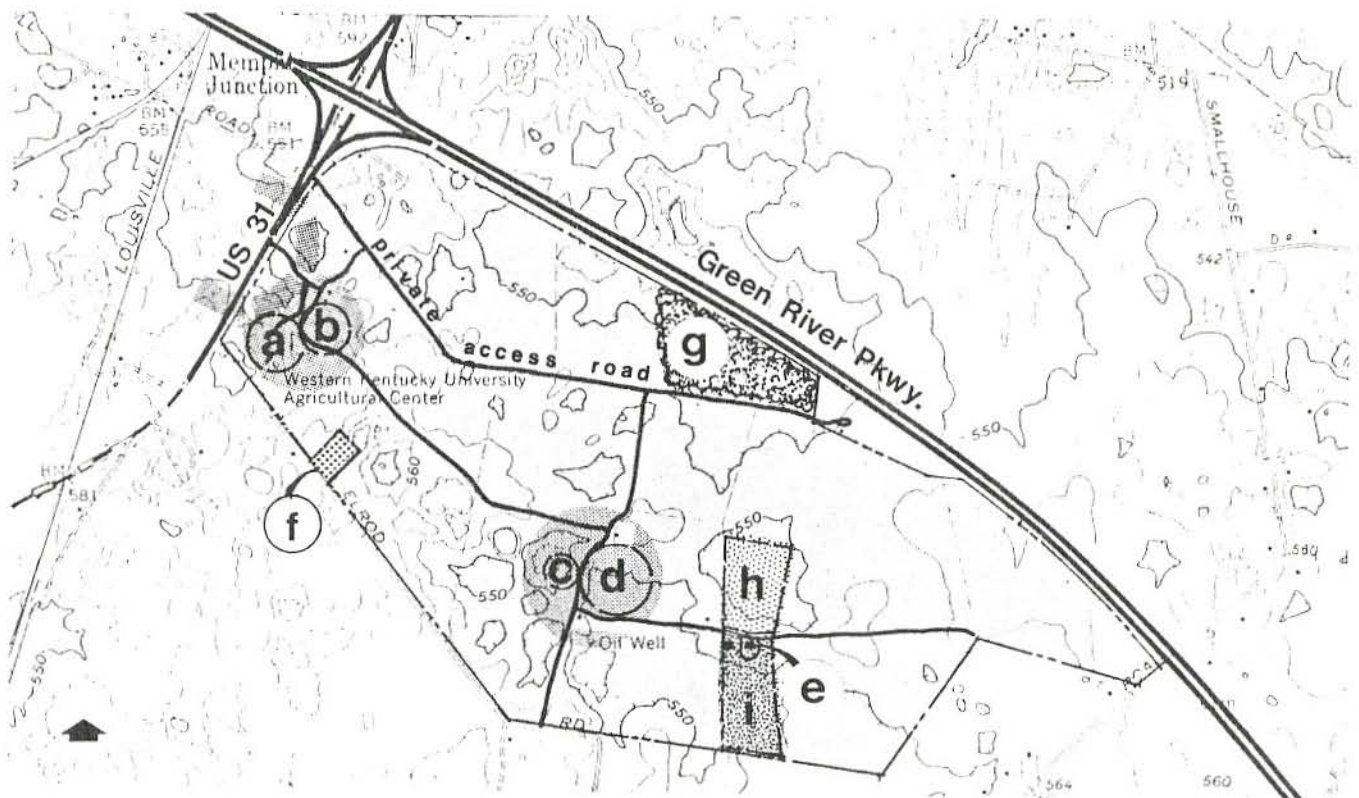
Two separate building groupings relate to the functions of the land. The first, Agriculture and Dairy Centers, are surrounded by pastures. The second complex, located 3500 feet to the east on the ridge line, is an operation center for crop production. A third small operational center is the Swine building which is located to be isolated to avoid the negative impact of the odor related to its function. All the buildings are presently operational and in good to excellent condition. Several farm houses are scattered throughout the site in proximity to the primary centers of operation. Each of these houses are habitable but could be expendable in the long range picture.

Most of the site is open with the exception of a small conifer plantation and wooded lot located at a mid point of the site next to the Green River Parkway. The privately owned parcel immediately east of this zone is surrounded by University property.

Key

- a Agriculture Center
- b Dairy Center
- c Machine Storage
- d Maintenance Area
- e Swine Station
- f Tree Nursery

- g Natural Area
- h Agronomy Research
- i Swine Station and Support
- Circulation
- Open Space/Cropland/Pasture
- Residences

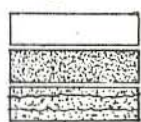


Vegetation

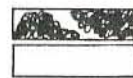
Pasture, hay fields and grain crops comprise the primary vegetation of the site. Steep slopes that are not cultivated are stabilized with native herbaceous materials. Damage to these slopes from animal impact are evident in permanent pasture areas. These should remain natural wherever possible to avoid erosion.

The remnant trees and hedge rows are minimal but very effective because of their contrast to the enormous open, horizontal plane. The cedar hedge rows, native in limestone soils, single specimen trees and small clusters of oaks, elms, hackberries, silver maple and poplar should be retained and strengthened with additional planting. The only substantial wooded area is located on the north edge of the site next to the Green River Parkway. This is a pleasant change of environmental character. Primarily a mixed pine woodlot, with an infiltration of native cherry and black locust, this area has a prolific undercover of sassafras and sumac offering a sanctuary for indigenous wildlife. The marginal soils in this area that would limit building construction and productive crops should give strength to its preservation.

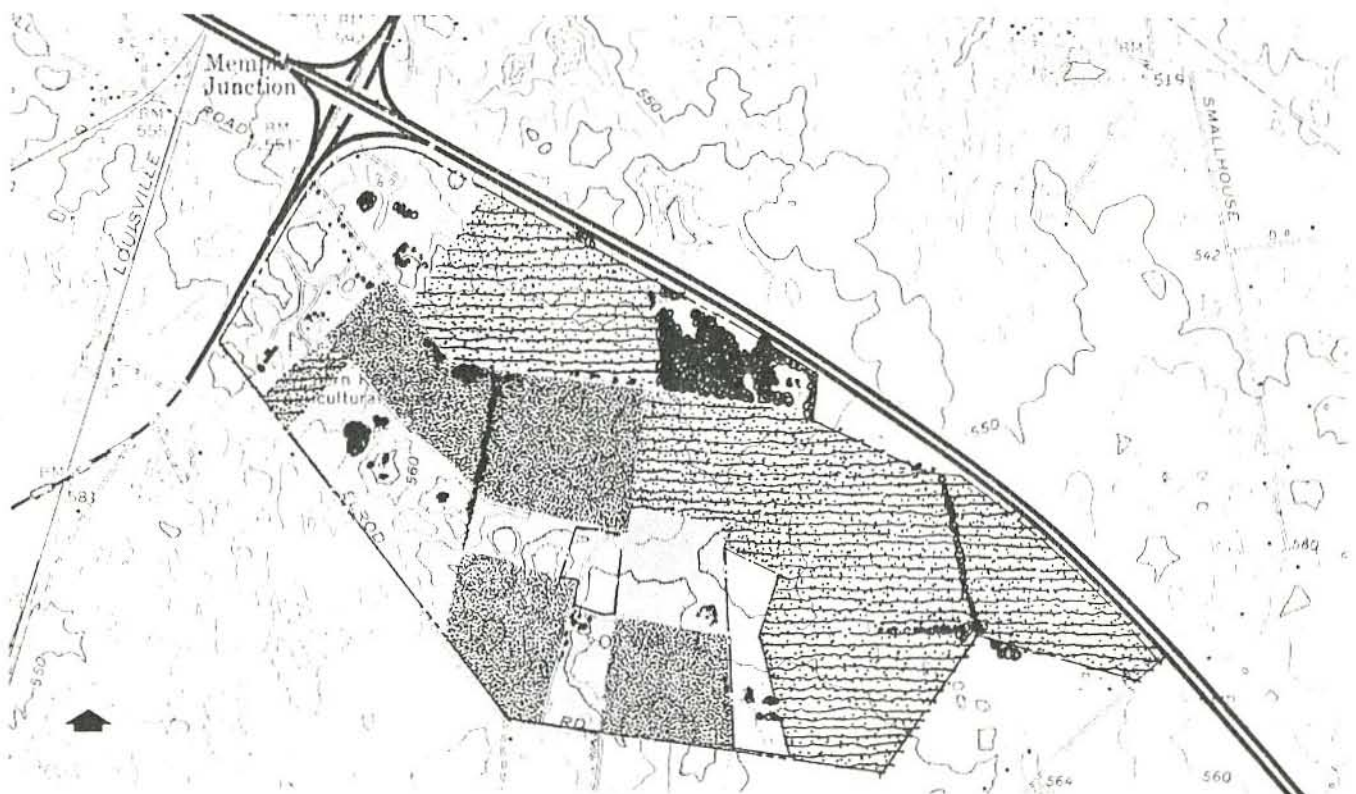
Key



Grazing
Hay
Grain Crops



Trees and Shrubs
Other



Access & Circulation

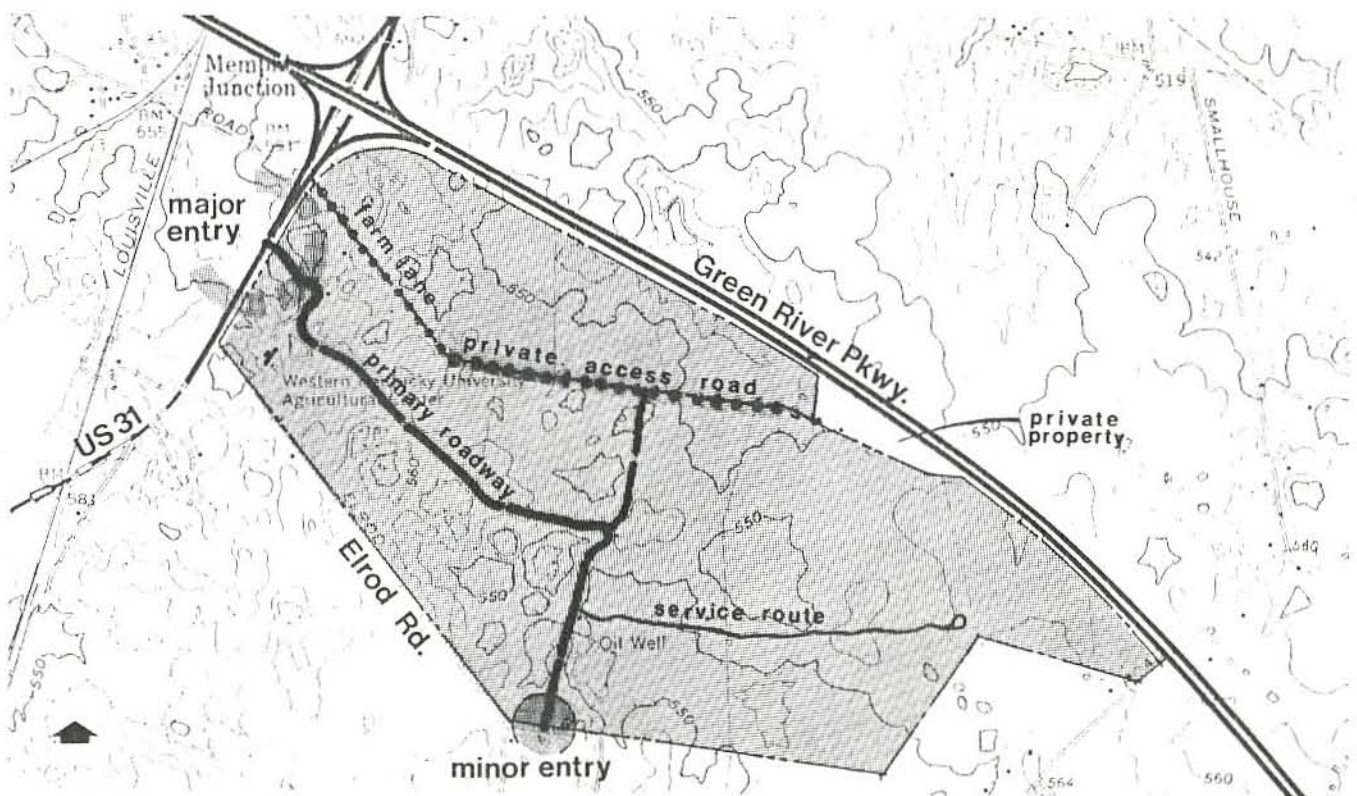
9

The University Farm site has excellent access to major regional thoroughfares with direct access to U.S. #31 W on the west and an interchange access to the Green River Parkway from U.S. #31 W at the northwest corner of the site. The site is within convenient proximity to the main Western Kentucky University Campus, located three miles north on U.S. #31 W near the center of Bowling Green.

Increased laneage and conflict with the Parkway interchange will be primary concerns affecting the development of major entrances from U.S. #31W. Elrod Road, recently improved for access to the F.M.C. Plant, could facilitate access at the western third of the site without causing a negative impact upon the residential community located along the south and west boundaries. The present entrance from Elrod Road into the Storage and Maintenance Center north of the residential area can be retained as a minor entry.

Internal vehicular circulation, essentially farm lanes, follow the natural ridges of the site. In general, this system should set the guidelines for future layout of the internal road system.

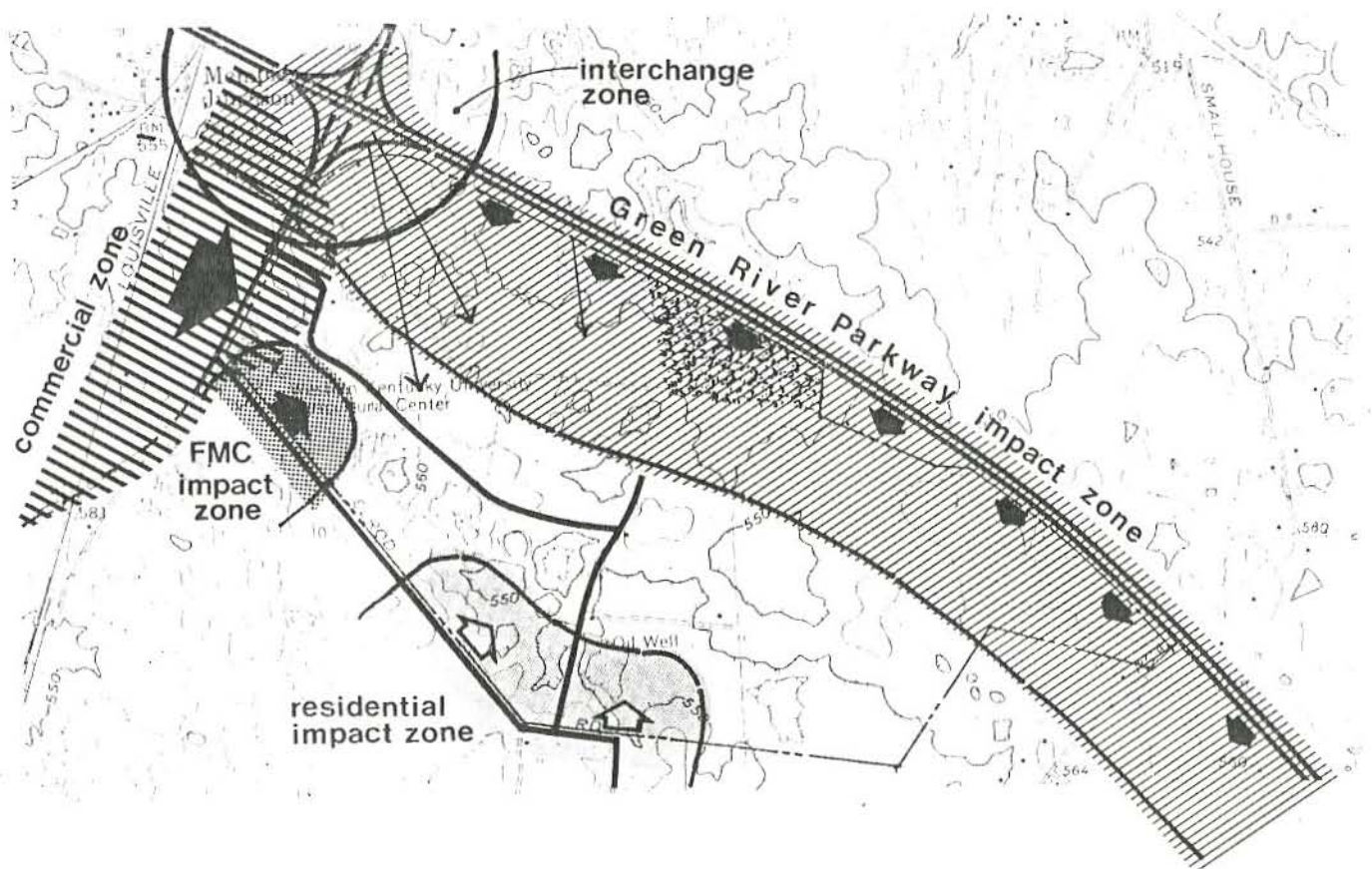
Access to the private property on the edge of Green River Parkway is provided over a long farm lane, to US #31 W cutting off the northern third of the site from the rest of the University owned land.



External Natural Visual Images

10

Four primary external impact forces influence related zones within the boundaries of the site. The first and largest of these is the Green River Parkway Zone. The existing visual image of the entire north edge of the site from the Parkway is expansive, open, rolling and pastoral in character. The only interruption being the relatively small mixed conifer woodlot. The second largest visual impact zone is the one influenced by the quality residential community on the southwest edge of the site. The two remaining visual impact zones occur where the pressure for intense development will be greatest at the west end of the site. The interchange zone offers an opportunity for the most important view into the site moving east on the Green River Parkway and South (SW) on U.S. #31 W. The fourth primary impact force is the F.M.C. industrial facility at the corner of Elrod Road and U.S. #31 W and the potential commercial use area along U.S. #31 W. These areas, because of their proximity, will effect the visual design expression of contiguous Campus development. The first three visual impact zones suggest that development along the perimeter of the site be expressed in a soft manner with the open pastoral character the dominant image, allowing quality vistas into the site. The fourth zone at the west end of the site where development could be intense, guidelines should be developed, including ample setbacks and appropriate buffers.



Utilities

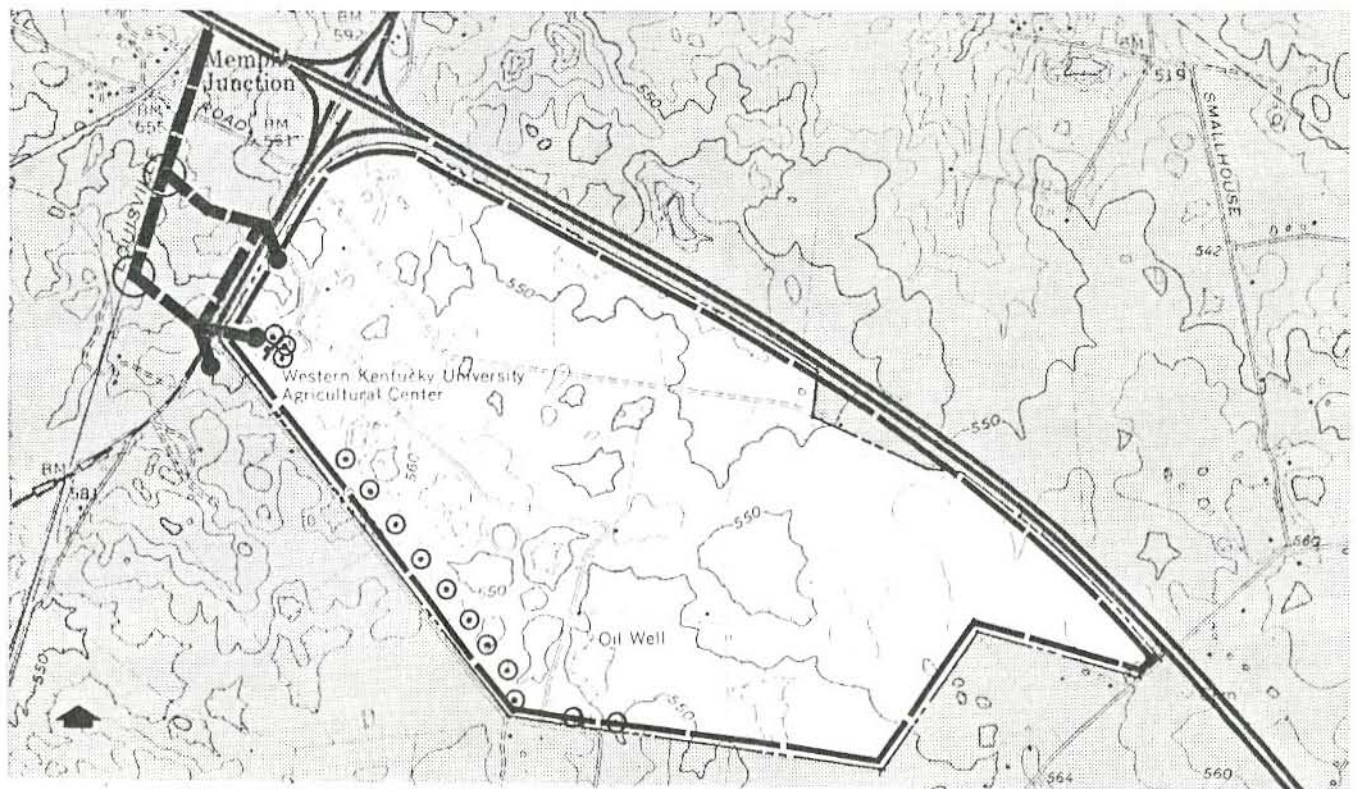
11

The site is adequately served by primary utilities, sanitary sewer, water and electricity. A recently installed sanitary sewer main with a lift station is available for connection at the west end of the site at the corner of Elrod Road and U.S. #31 W. The location of the sanitary sewer will have some influence on the location of initial development of the site because of the extreme length of site (over 1-1/2 miles). Water lines circumvent the entire border of the site allowing convenient service to any development zone. High voltage electric transmission lines along Elrod Road provide adequate and convenient electrical service to potential zones of development.

Key

Sanitary Sewer Line
Pump Station

Water Line
Power Line

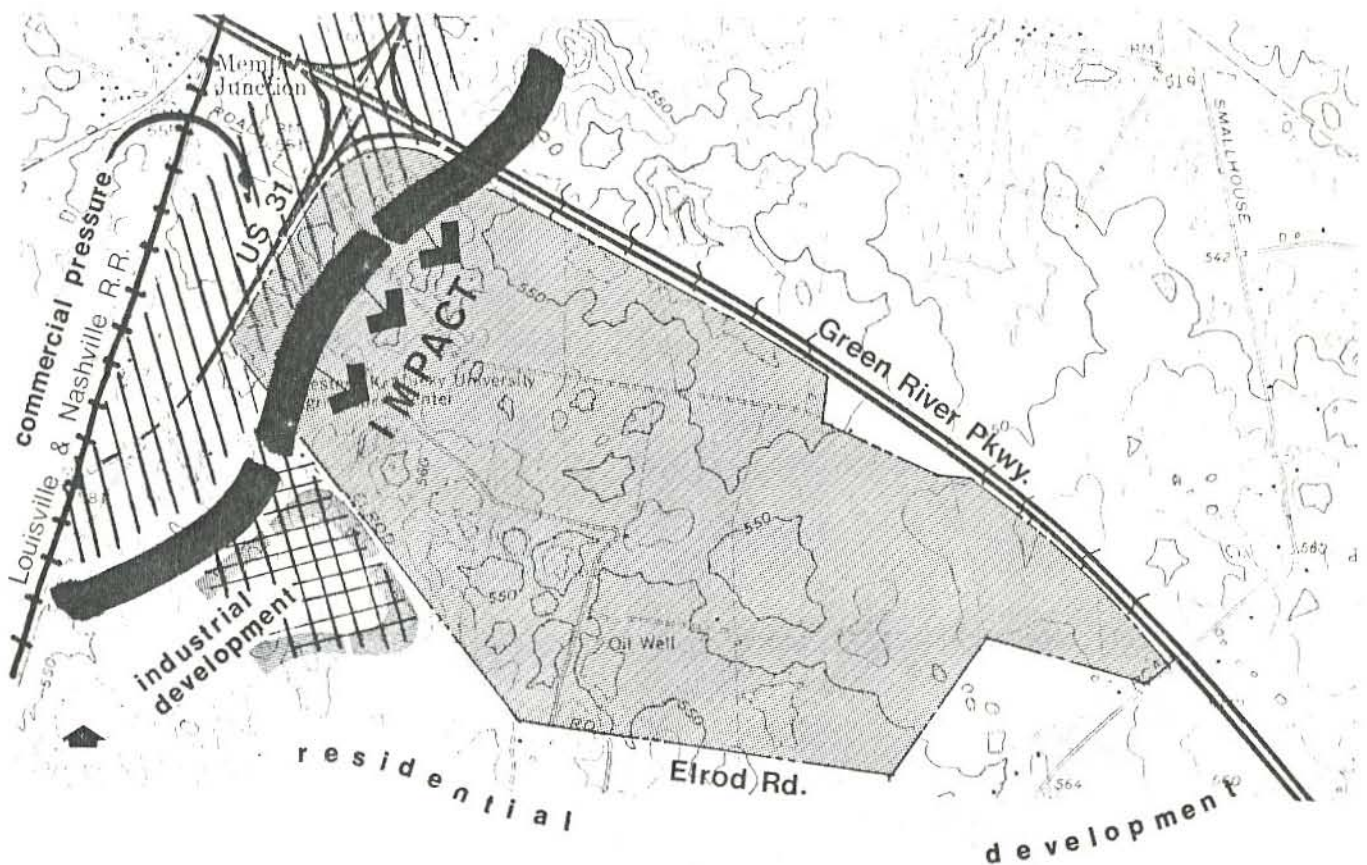


Surrounding Land Use

12

The influence of surrounding land use occurs in varying degrees of impact on the west and south edges of the site. The more intense impact will occur on the west edge at the Green River Parkway interchange and along U.S. #31 W. Also the new sanitary sewer will probably generate extensive expansion of commercial and industrial development in this area. All the related problems caused by this kind of expansion, increased traffic volumes, multiple accesses, building masses and materials, graphics and signage, parking and landscape should be continually monitored both during the planning and construction phases in order to achieve optimum compatibility in relation to the land-use master plan.

Campus development along the residential edge contiguous to Elrod Road should be sensitive to the quality and character of the neighborhood. The Green River Parkway and its Right-of-Way provides an adequate buffer or separator from development north of the site with the exception of the possibility of heavy industrial uses or high rise buildings that could pollute the environment as well as having visual impact on the low horizontal profile of the entire region.



Site Analysis Summary

13

The expansive land area of the Western Kentucky University Farm appears to be, upon initial impression, adaptable to extensive development without many restrictions. However, as pointed out in analysis of the various site elements there are a series of factors, both individually and collectively, that will influence the location and density of future development.

The existing structure of the site delineates physiographic land areas, variable in shape and size, which should be related to the proposed program in such a manner that physical development is in harmony with the site. The central spine of the topographic structure, a major ridge line, runs through the entire length of the site turning north at the west end. Linked to this primary ridge are numerous sink holes that receive most of the interior site drainage. These sink holes form numerous developable land units, some of which are as small as two acres, and other which are as large as thirty acres. The system of land units defuse into basically one large, level parcel of land at the east end of the site.

Geologically, surface limestone will prevent any major adjustment to the existing grades from the mid point of the site all the way to the western edge. The sink holes formed by this strong geological structure can be enhanced aesthetically in the form of soft green amphitheaters or ponds that can feature certain buildings or land uses like a golf course.

Access to the site is another major determinant for the utilization of land and phasing its development. The optimum vehicular access point occurs in an 800 feet long zone at the east edge of the new F.M.C. Plant on Elrod Road before the residential community begins. Access from U.S. #31 W will be difficult because of the present and projected volumes of traffic on U.S. #31 W and the interchange to the Green River Parkway which requires generous storage and merging lanes. In addition, access to Elrod Road from U.S. #31 W will cause further problems in this critical zone.

Circulation within the site should follow the framework of the topography to insure adequate drainage and a simple, clear organizational relationship to the developable land units. The major conflict in existing vehicular circulation is the dedicated roadway access to the 24 acre privately owned farmstead along Green River Parkway.

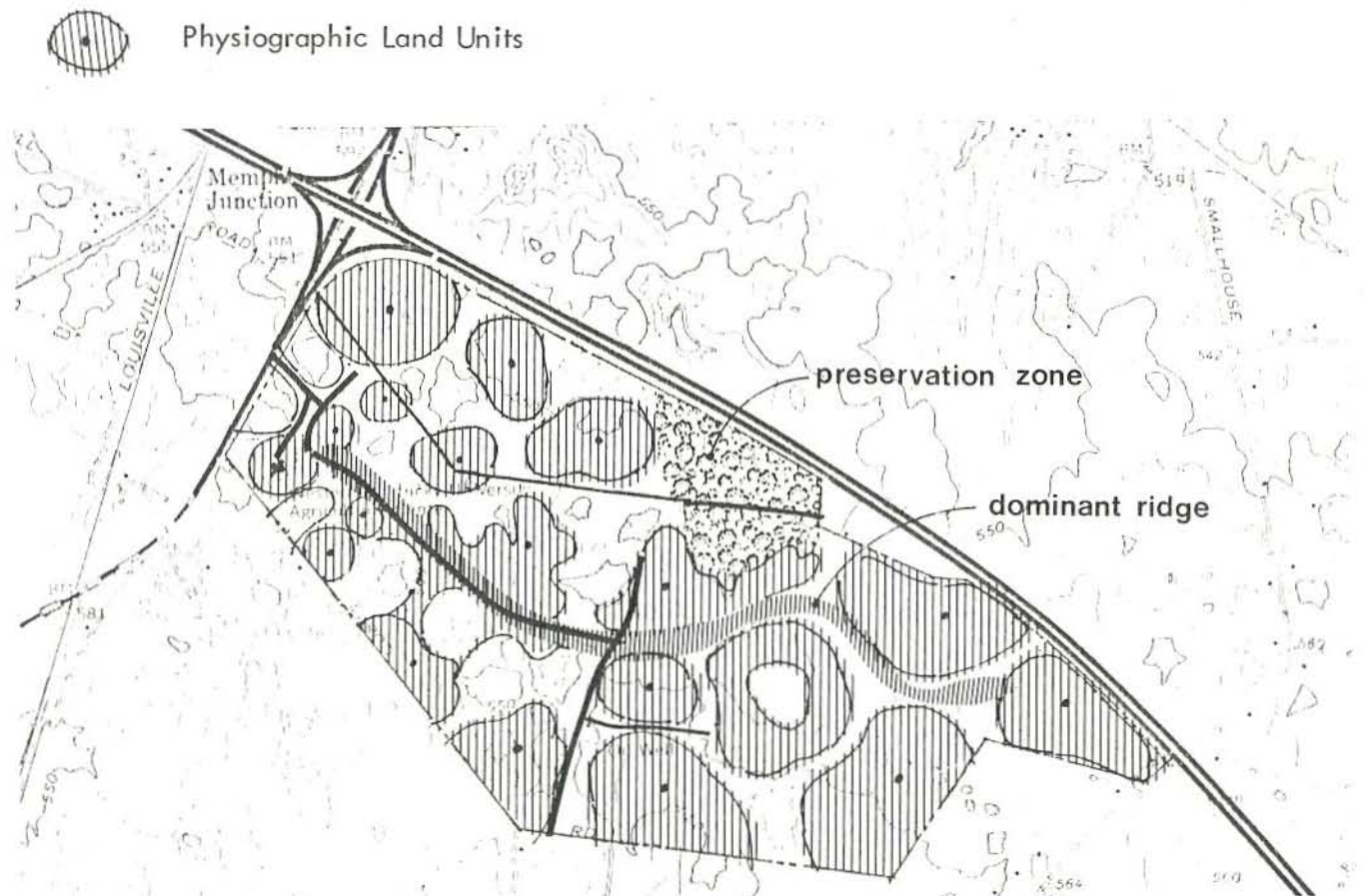
Access to utilities is convenient. The only major influencing factor is the location of the main sanitary sewer line, the tape-in-point of which is at the corner of Elrod Road and at U.S. #31 W. The cost burden can be distributed over a period of time if the sequence of development is programmed from the western portion to the eastern half of the site.

The one remnant forest and its undercover should be preserved in its natural state and utilized appropriately for environmental education.

The physical character of the site and the influence of most of the perimeter of the site; the vistas along the Green River Parkway, the pastoral land to the east and the soft, low density housing district on the southern border implies that the perimeter of the site should be essentially designated as open space uses, such as athletic, pasture and farm crops. The interior of the site parallel to the dominant ridge would be reserved for the more intensely developed building program; a land area which will accommodate more than the foreseeable expansion program.

Physiographic Land Unit Plan

The diagram below illustrates how the physical structure (physiography) of the site defines developable land units; land units that can be developed without major damage or adjustment to the topography, drainage patterns and vegetation. The most significant feature of the pattern is the breakdown of the site into many inter-related land areas on the western half of the site shaped by the scattered sink holes in contrast to the larger and fewer land units on the eastern half of the site where sink holes are larger and fewer in number. The dominant ridge line is also evident in the diagram as an element that unifies and is common to nearly all of the developable units. The wooded zone stands out as a distinct area related to a unifying system of topography and poorly drained soils in the lowest pocket of the site.



Program Analysis

Development of the University Farm is proposed to meet the expanding educational objectives of the University in three areas: general academic, agricultural teaching and research, and physical education and recreation programs. In addition, the farm offers opportunities for the University to serve the community as an educational, cultural and recreational resource center.

In September 1974, the University Farm Development Committee submitted their report outlining recommended programs for this campus expansion. The University also developed criteria for the facilities they felt would be required to house the program objectives. As part of the planning workshop held in August 1975, the planner reviewed this information with members of the Farm Development Committee and determined in detail the physical relationships of the various programs and their implications on the site.

It is apparent that these programs will require diverse facilities that vary broadly in size from several thousand square feet to one-hundred thousand square feet or more. Interviews with the University Committee indicated that these facilities have functional relationships that require them to be grouped together forming planning units responsive to specific program objectives. Internal characteristics of each unit were investigated to determine specific planning criteria. Student/faculty population, parking and service requirements, required access, operational procedures between the various facilities of the unit, and site requirements unique to that unit were considered. Similar criteria were reviewed in developing the relationship between the planning units. Future detail planning will refine the content and specific organization of each unit. Planning units identified were Animal Sciences Program area, Farm Operation and Instructional area, Plant Sciences Program area, Residences, Outdoor Instructional and Recreation area, Recreation Field area, and Future Academic Expansion area.

Within the Academic Expansion area, a site was selected for a multipurpose facility. This facility will provide for agriculture exposition programs. It also will be used for some physical education and community related activities.

Schematic Alternative

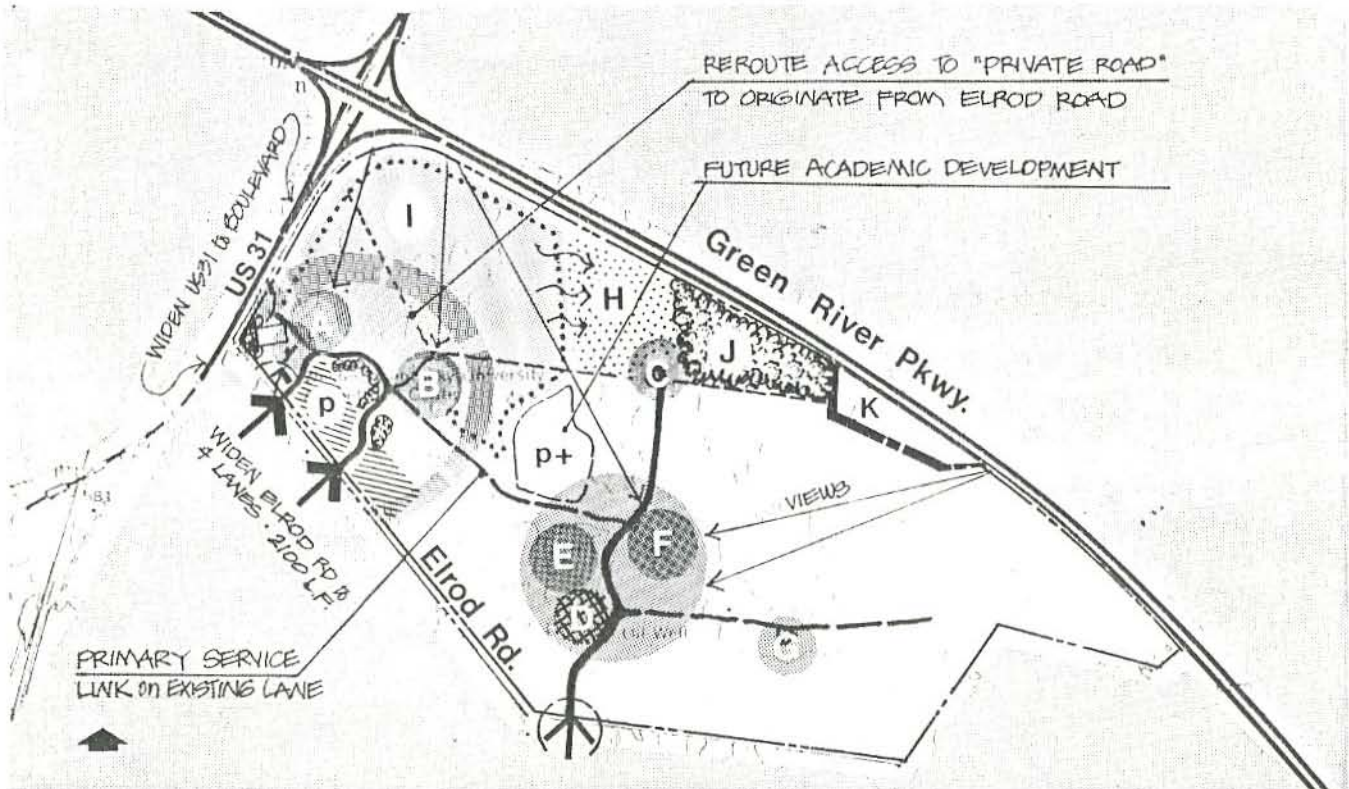
A

The primary developable zones in Scheme A utilizes existing facilities and has a strong relationship to the dominant ridge line. Each of the zones have the golf course as a foreground. The Dairy and Agriculture Centers would be renovated and used for physical education and recreation related to outdoor recreation facilities. The golf course provides a green transition zone next to the Parkway. Agriculture Exposition Center, the first major development, is located on the ridge line where it has excellent visual identity and reasonable access to utilities. A loop drive entering from Elrod Road penetrates to each of the primary functions providing direct access to service and parking without crossing major pedestrian routes. Occasional overflow parking is proposed near the Exposition Center where it can be developed for future academic program needs.

A farm operation and education program is located further east on the ridge line. This facility utilizes the existing facilities as its base function providing for expansion according to needs. Two smaller functions are located in isolated areas; first, the existing swine station will remain because of its impact upon the surrounding area and second, the plant sciences program area because of its proximity to fertile soils. An existing access road from Elrod Road will continue to serve this low density zone.

Key

A	Physical Education & Recreation Center	H	Plant Science Research Area
B	Agriculture Exposition Center	I	Golf Course
C	Agriculture, Instruction & Production Area	J	Recreation Field Area
D	Residences	K	Private Property
E	Farm Operation and Instruction Area	p	Parking Area
F	Animal Sciences Program Area	p+	Overflow Parking Area
G	Swine Station	Cross Country Trail



Schematic Alternative B

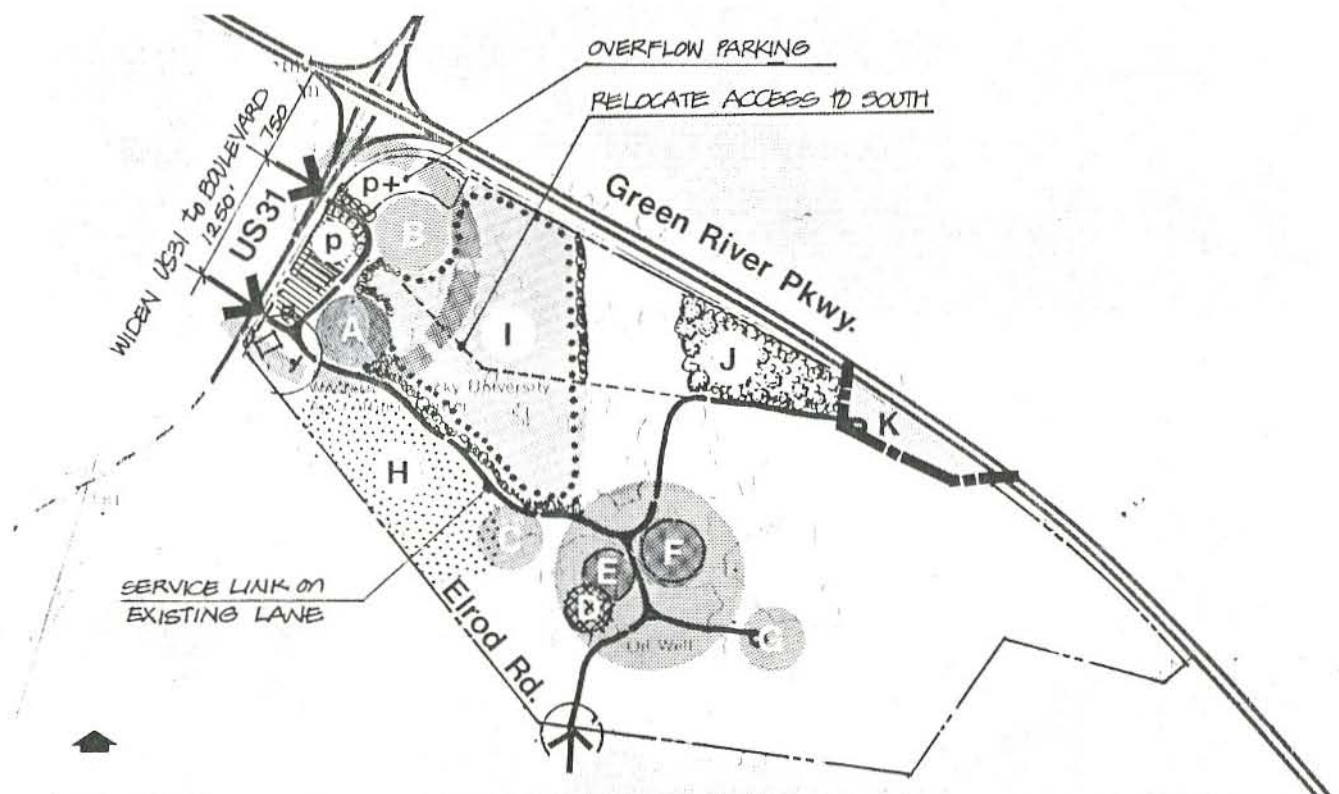
This scheme locates the Agriculture Exposition Center at the northwest corner of the site where it has maximum visual exposure to the interchange zone. Contiguous to this new facility is the Physical Education and Recreation Program that would utilize the existing buildings. Primary vehicular ingress and egress would have to occur from U.S. #31 W next to the interchange. Even with increased laneage and turning lanes the traffic conflicts generated by special events would be enormous. Large parking lots would be an essential matrix around the entire complex causing some visual concern. The golf course would be located east of or in back of the Agriculture Exposition Center. Utility access is convenient and direct tap-ins are available on U.S. #31 W.

The only major difference between Scheme A and Scheme B on the remainder of the site is the location of the Agriculture Instruction and Production Area to a position where it is closer to Farm Operation Center where it utilizes existing pastures around sink holes for the plant research program. While micro climate conditions may be better for crop experimentation, the existing thin soils and steep slopes may cause difficulties.

The existing 20 acre wooded lot as in Scheme A would be preserved as a recreation field area.

Key

A	Physical Education & Recreation Center	H	Plant Science Research Area
B	Agriculture Exposition Center	I	Golf Course
C	Agriculture, Instruction & Production Area	J	Recreation Field Area
D	Residences	K	Private Property
E	Farm Operation and Instruction Area	p	Parking Area
F	Animal Sciences Program Area	p+	Overflow Parking Area
G	Swine Station	Cross Country Trail



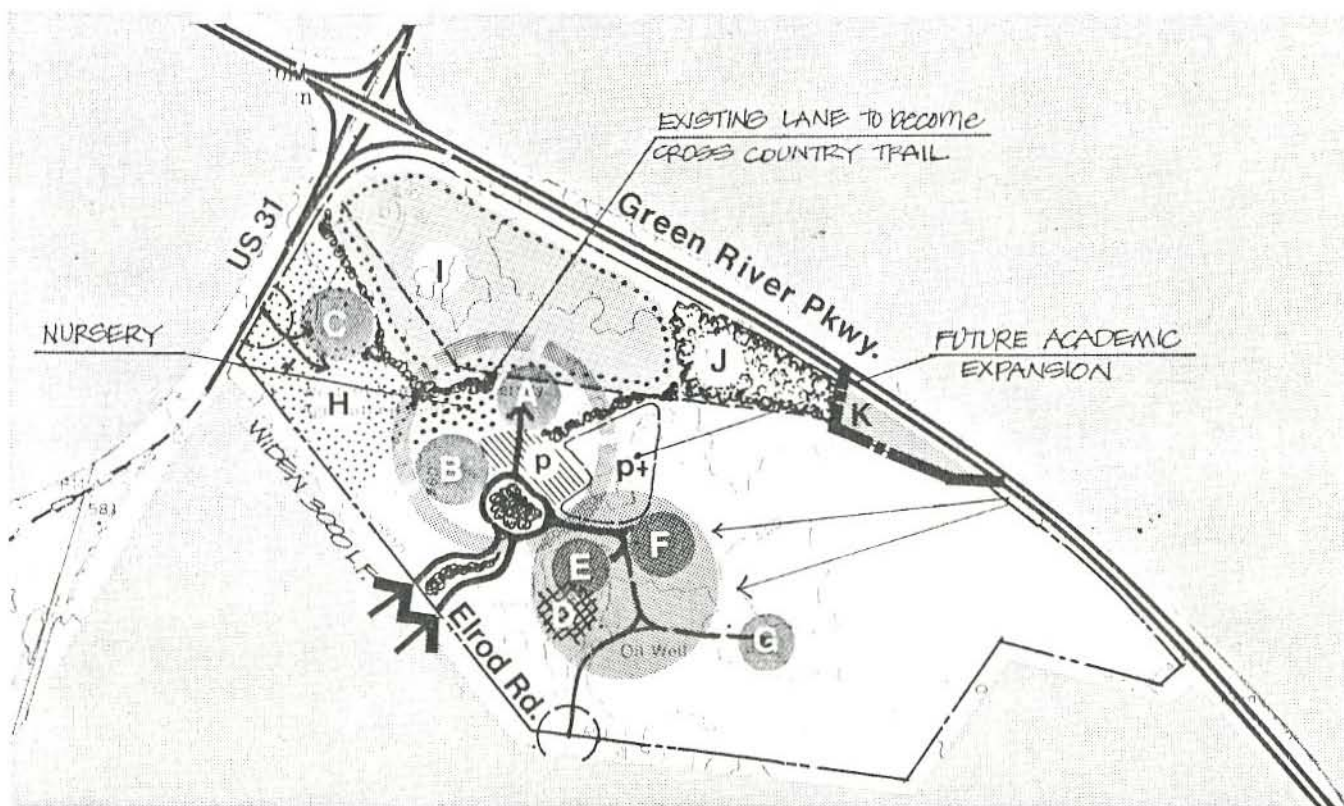
Schematic Alternative C

Scheme C features a centralized pattern that clusters primary development on or adjacent to the dominant ridge line in the center of the site. While the Farm Operation and Instruction Area and its expansion will remain essentially as proposed in Schemes A and B, the Agriculture Exposition Center and Physical Education and Recreational facilities move further east flanking the ridge line. Primary access would be from Elrod Road, aligned between two prominent sink holes providing a very impressive entry. The entry in this location would cause some conflict with residential traffic and require over 3000 lineal feet of road improvements. Parking would be conveniently located in the center of the complex. This scheme recommends new recreational facilities. The Dairy and Agriculture facilities will be utilized as the center for the Agriculture Education and Production.

The golf course would parallel the Green River Parkway blending into the woodlot providing a very impressive and appropriate foreground image for the future campus. Future academic expansion would relate as "in fill" development related to the central complex.

Key

A	Physical Education & Recreation Center	H	Plant Science Research Area
B	Agriculture Exposition Center	I	Golf Course
C	Agriculture, Instruction & Production Area	J	Recreation Field Area
D	Residences	K	Private Property
E	Farm Operation and Instruction Area	p	Parking Area
F	Animal Sciences Program Area	p+	Overflow Parking Area
G	Swine Station	Cross Country Trail



Recommended Land-Use Plan

Schematic Alternative A forms the basis for the Recommended Land Use Master Plan for the University Farm. The plan responds to the existing conditions of the site, both ecologically and functionally. The expanse of pastoral land is maintained by concentrating hard program uses, such as the larger buildings and their supporting facilities, straddling the lineal ridge line on the interior of the site. The larger and softer land uses, such as the recreation fields and the agriculture instruction and production areas are located on the perimeter. Both the foreseeable short range program needs and those unforeseen can be comfortably accommodated within this natural development pattern.

Access to the primary development zones from Elrod Road will allow the existing regional traffic system to flow without serious conflict. Elrod Road will have to be eventually widened to four lanes. Parking lots would be located at the edges, near primary use areas, where they can be tucked into and screened by existing land forms. Vehicular circulation is arranged to minimize conflicts with primary pedestrian routes yet serve the major facilities in a direct functional manner. The private road is proposed to be relocated to link into the campus entrance road with an outlet on Elrod Road, allowing the West portion of the site to be consolidated into a large unified development zone. A minor entry serving less demanding facilities, in terms of vehicular traffic, remains at its present location on Elrod Road.

The major western development zone includes the Physical Education and Recreation Center, the Agriculture Exposition Center, and an 18-hole golf course. The Physical Education and Recreation Center utilizes both the Dairy Center structures and the Western Kentucky University Agriculture Center for interior functions which serve and relate to exterior activities such as tennis, an olympic size swimming and diving pool, and an 18-hole championship length golf course. Each of these recreational facilities fits into the rolling topography to honor the sink hole and their essential natural functions. The golf course utilizes the sink holes in a unique way to make the course interesting and challenging in terms of play. The water filled sink holes are used as hazards in strategic locations. The golf course also serves as an impressive rolling green foreground for the entire western zone of the campus as viewed from the major traffic arteries.

The Agriculture Exposition Center is situated on the ridge with excellent access to the entry drive and large parking lots. The building can be designed to fit into the grade with primary access from the top of the ridge and related paddock areas opening out from the lower level on the natural grade. Adapting to the topography in this particular area will lessen the apparent bulk of the building as well as alleviating the erosion problems. The parking areas are placed at a lower grade than the surrounding campus minimizing their negative visual impact. The sink holes and the vegetation around them are preserved as foreground mini-parks which can be used by the campus community.

The large stabilized field northeast of the building can be used in part for overflow parking and in the long-range picture as a site for future academic facilities.

The second major development zone is approximately 2400 feet east of the Agriculture Exposition Center. Linked by an interior service drive aligned with the existing farm lane, two clusters of buildings comprise the major part of the program for this zone. The first is the Animal Science facility, located at the terminus of the existing farm lane on one of the more prominent knolls of the site. This cluster includes the dairy operation. The second cluster utilizes and expands the existing structures and will be designed to house the farm operations and instruction program. Adjacent to this building grouping will be a minimal number of resident facilities for students and staff. These two building clusters are served by an entrance road from Elrod Road following the existing alignment to a point where the road winds through a shallow depression rising to the high plateau where it ties into the existing farm lane. A large continuous over story of shade trees provides a common unifying element for the entire complex.

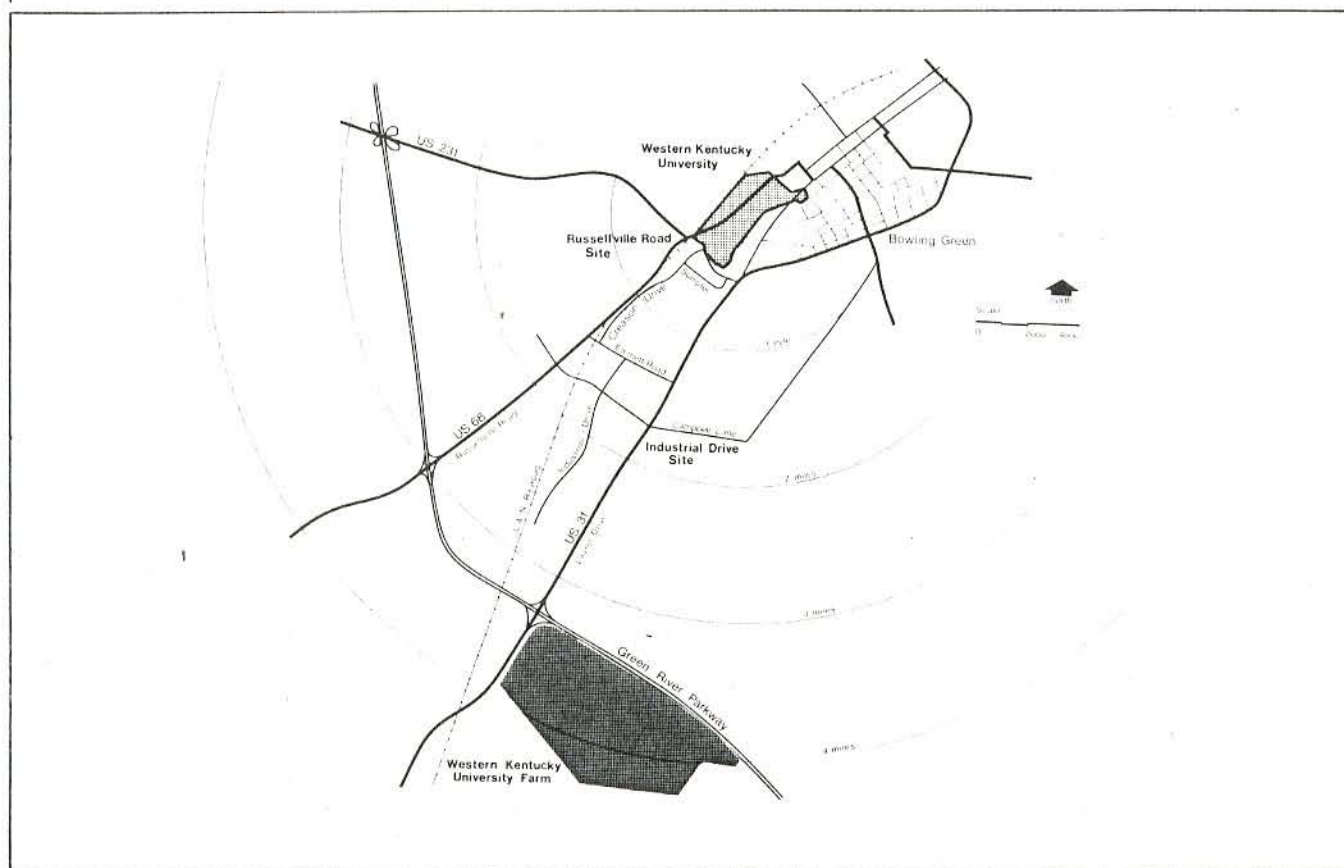
The Swine Station and the Agriculture Instruction and Production Areas, although having the advantage of being accessible to the internal service road systems, are isolated to relate to special functional requirements. For example, the Agriculture production operation takes advantage of the more productive soils throughout the Eastern half of the site which are out of the path of prime development for many years. Also, the Swine Station will remain in its present location where its operation will not adversely affect other use areas and the community to the south.

The existing conifer woodlot edging the Green River Parkway will serve the University's Physical Education Program for appropriate recreational activities which relate to its natural character and therefore require minimal, if any, adjustments to the land or its ingredients. Intensity of use, even though related to the land character, will have to be monitored carefully to protect the fragile natural systems in this particular portion of the site.

The expansive land areas, 250 to 300 acres, to the east, can remain for the production of grain and agronomy research within the foreseeable program demands. However, as the Western Kentucky University program requirements change and expand, this large contiguous land reserve should be re-evaluated in terms of optimum and alternative uses.

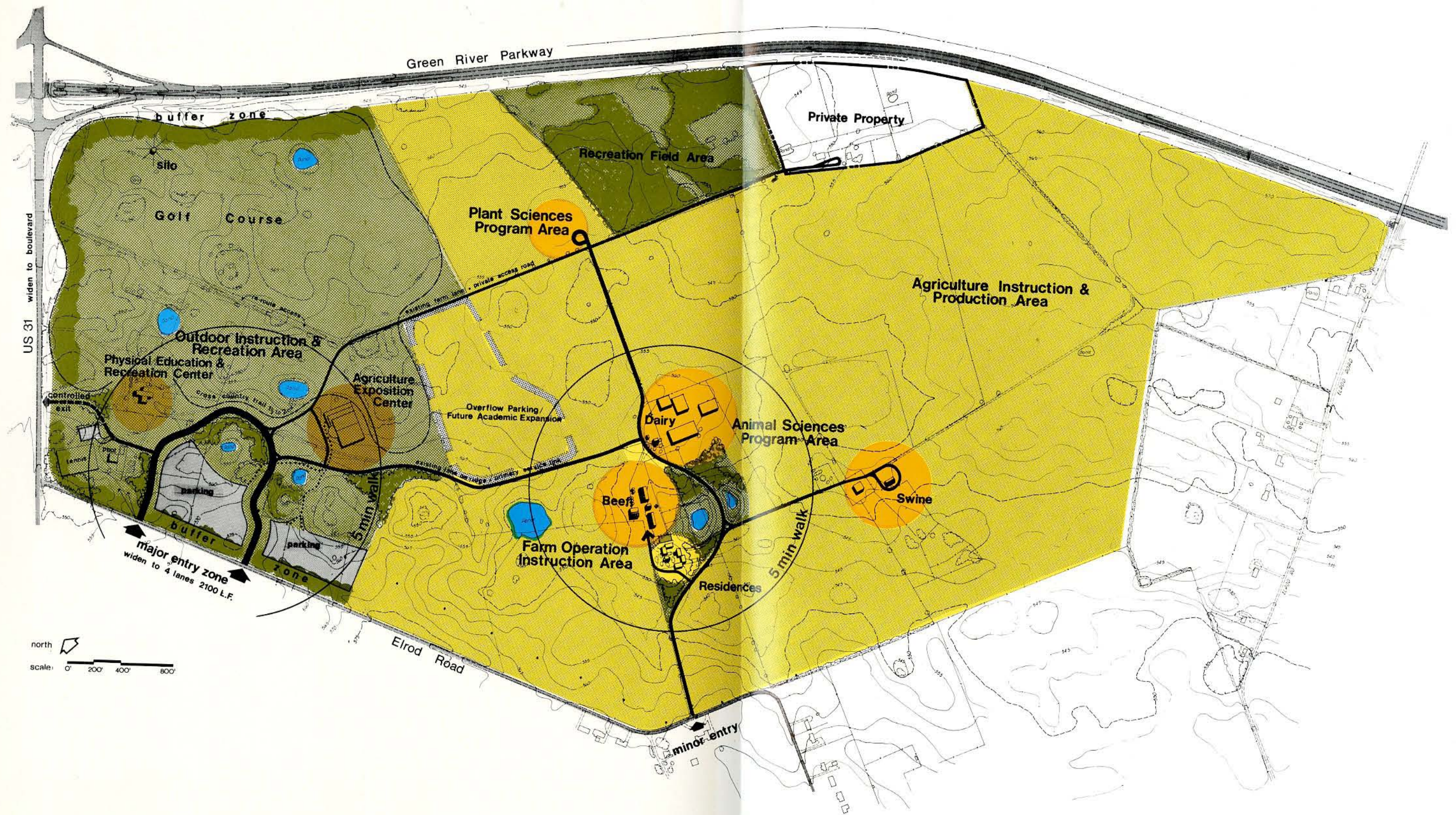
University Farm Site

21





Recommended Land Use Plan

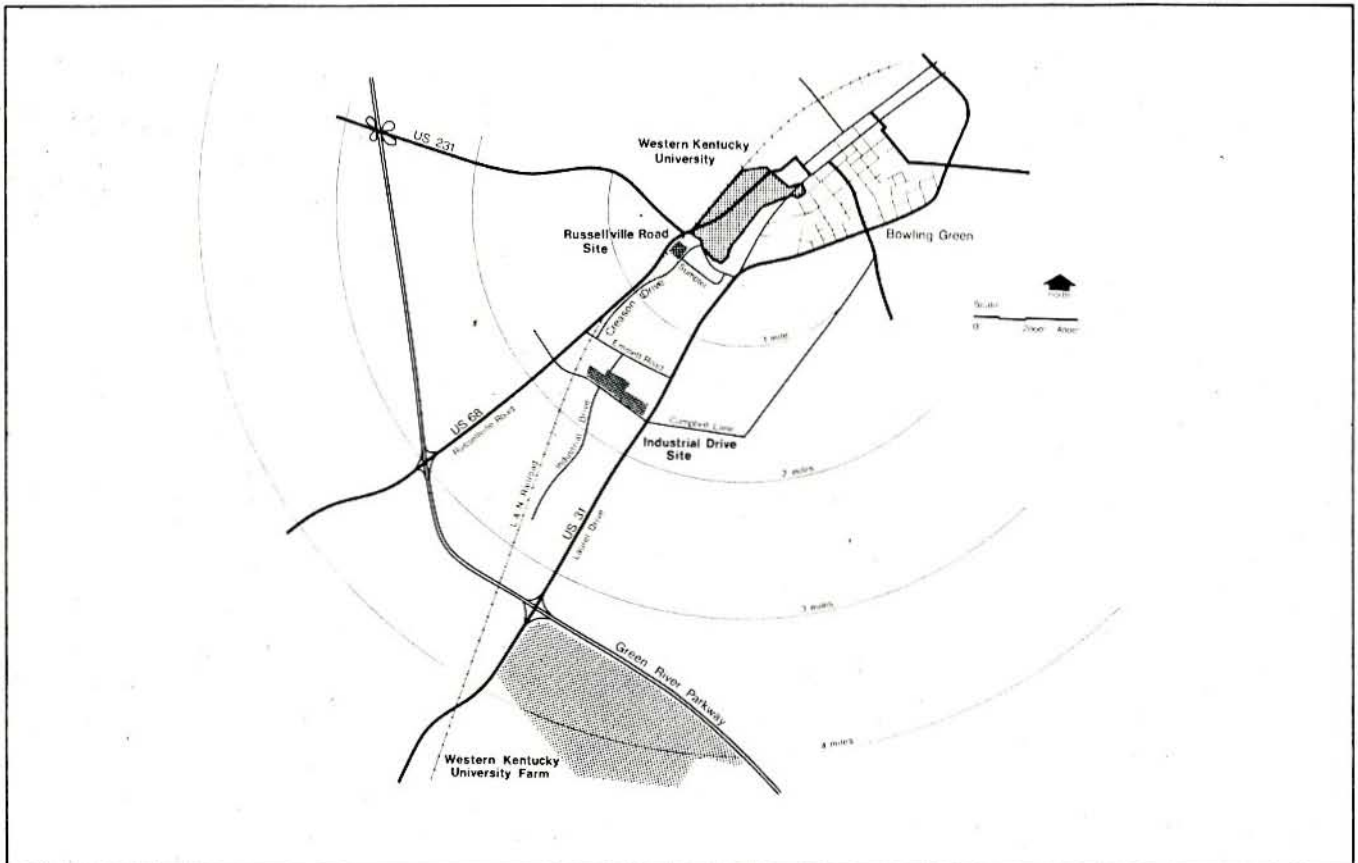


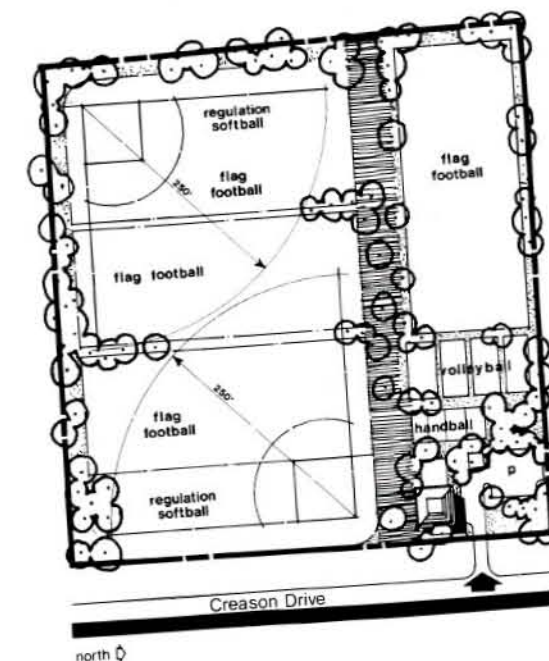
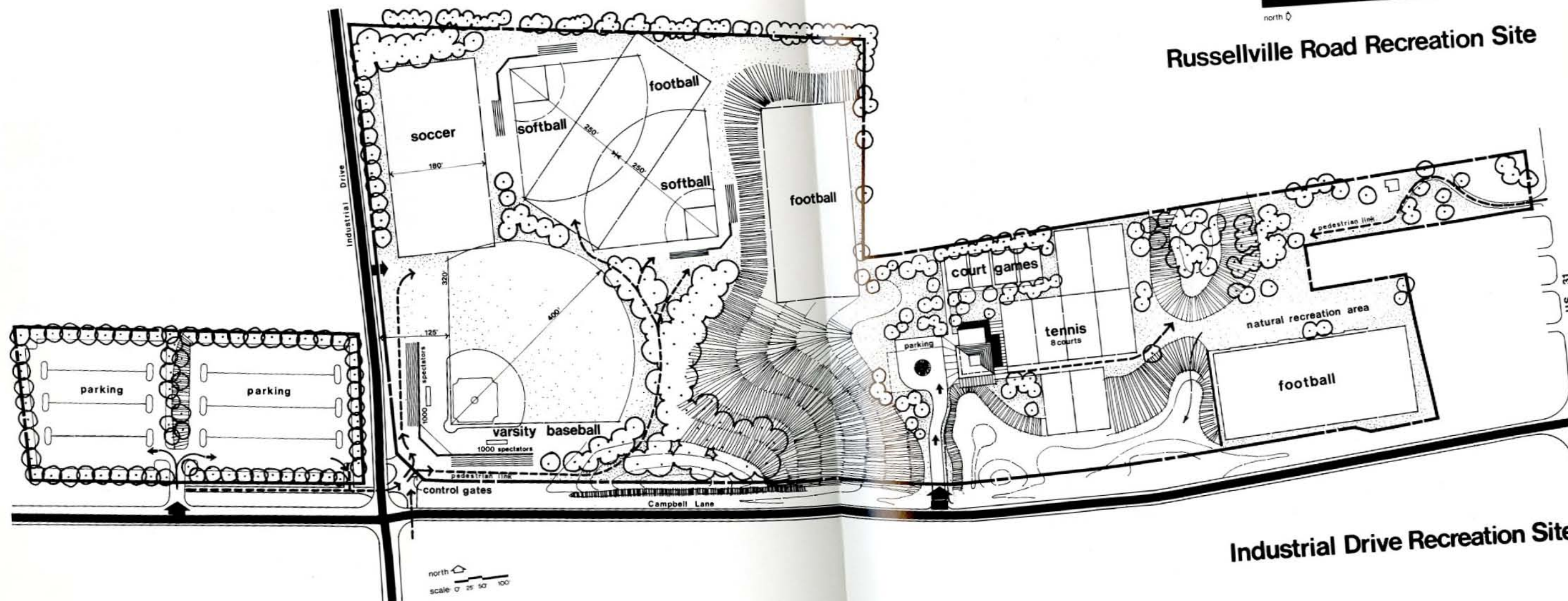
Recommended Land Use Plan

Recommended Land Use Plan for other University Property

22

- I. INDUSTRIAL DRIVE
- II. OLD RUSSELLVILLE ROAD PROPERTY





Russellville Road Recreation Site

Industrial Drive Recreation Site

Industrial Drive Recreation Site

Located less than two miles from the center of Western Kentucky University's main campus is the proposed Industrial Drive Recreation Site.

With excellent access from three primary roads, Industrial Drive, Campbell Lane, and U.S. #31 W, this 25-acre site offers the opportunity for a wide variety of recreational activities, both active and passive.

The rolling site, shaped by an understructure of limestone, is generally divided into two areas each of which in terms of size and configuration shape the uses for which they are planned. The higher zone, 800'+ square, is open and comparatively level allowing the layout of the larger recreation fields, a soccer field, two softball fields and a football field. The major facility in this zone is a varsity baseball field located at the corner of Industrial Drive and Campbell Lane. A generous set back, 125' provides an ample buffer zone for foul balls and room for spectator stands where, if ever required, control gates and fences can be installed. The left and right field foul lines are 320 feet while the center field moves back for 400 feet or more. The varsity baseball field and stands have convenient access to a future large parking lot west of Industrial Drive.

The lower portion of the site running parallel to Campbell Lane, approximately 450 feet wide, is gently undulating with limestone close to the surface. A large sink hole drains most of the site. Rather than attempting any major changes in this land form, the recreational activities were sized and chosen to fit the site with only minor adjustments. Eight tennis and various smaller court game areas are located next to the Recreation Building which is almost geographically centered in the Recreation Park. One other organized recreational field, a football field, is located at the east end of the site next to Campbell Lane.

Informal areas, some open and some with scattered shade trees, provide a soft parklike matrix in areas less adaptable for organized games. The natural areas also contribute pleasant, soft buffer zones between more active areas, adding to the beauty of the community environment, in essence creating a true Recreation Park.

Russellville Road Recreation Site

24

Located within walking distance of the main Western Kentucky University campus, the Russellville Road Recreation Site, a 6-acre parcel, provides additional recreation facilities for the University's Intramural Program.

The site is divided north and south into essentially two level areas. The larger upper plateau, comprising 65% of the site, consists of compacted fill material draining to the south. This zone is planned to accommodate dual use activities with three flag football fields, laid over two regulation softball fields.

A six-foot vertical slope divides the upper plateau from the remaining lower portion of the site where a flag football field is located along with an area for small court games such as volleyball and handball. A 900 square foot Recreation Building, located facing Creason Drive, is contiguous to a small convenience parking lot and service drive. The Recreation Building is sized and located to accommodate restroom and minimal equipment storage needs. Large shade trees should be planted on the perimeter of the site and in the North East corner of the site to soften the edges and the large expanse of open area.

PLANNING COMMITTEE

Dr. Dero G. Downing, President
Western Kentucky University

Dr. Raymond Cravens
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Mr. Harry Largen
Vice President for Business Affairs

Dr. John Minton
Vice President for Administrative Affairs

Dr. Kelly Thompson, President
College Heights Foundation and President Emeritus

Dr. Marvin Russell, Dean
Ogden College of Science and Technology

Dr. William Stroube, Associate Dean
Ogden College of Science and Technology

Dr. L. D. Brown, Head
Department of Agriculture

Dr. Burch Oglesby, Head
Department of Physical Education and Recreation

Mr. John Oldham
Director of Athletics

Mr. Lynn Greeley, Assistant Dean
Administrative and Technical Services, Ogden College
of Science and Technology

Mr. Owen Lawson, Jr., Administrator
Department of Physical Plant and Facilities Management